

ON WITH THE DANCE

-By WALLGREN

CABLE NEWS FROM THE STATES ANNOUNCED THAT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE ARMISTICE A NATION WIDE REVIVAL OF THE DANCE CRAZE WAS INAUGURATED.

THEREFORE WE DEPICT HEREWITH THE PATNETIC EFFORTS OF THE A.E.F. TO KEEP UP WITH THE TIMES UNDER EXTREMELY DIFFICULT CONDITIONS.



YOU'LL HAVE A FINE TIME FITTING YOUR ARMY DRESS INTO DANCE PUMPS



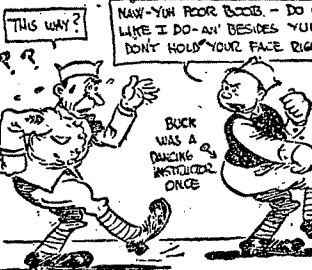
MAKING THE BEST OF IT.



IN COBLENZ - NURSES ARE FORBIDDEN TO DANCE WITH ENLISTED MEN.



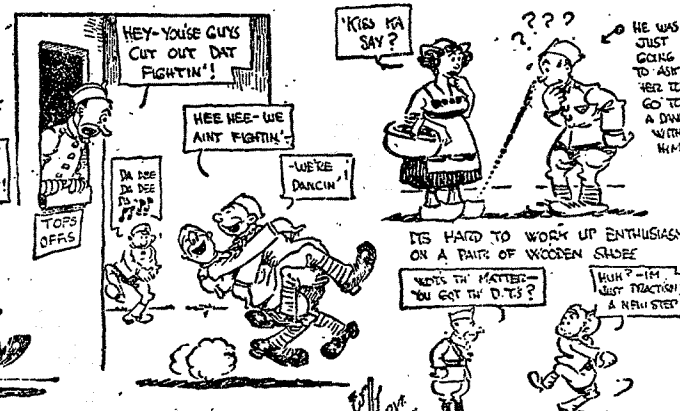
THE ORCHESTRA - PLAYS WITHOUT NOTES - FRANKS' OR MONEY.



BUCK FINALLY GETS BACK AT HIS AMBITIOUS TOP.



ARRIVING AT THE DANCE IN STYLE



EVERYBODY DOING IT

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT



PICK OUT SOME ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW AS MUCH OR AS LITTLE ABOUT STEPPING AS YOURSELF. SO THAT YOU WILL HAVE THE ADVANTAGE FROM THE START. YOUR MUSIC SHOULD ALWAYS BE A CORTICAL. SO THAT HE CAN KEEP TIME AND GIVE THE COMMANDS IN A MILITARY MANNER. AS THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DANCING AND DEILING IS THE DISPOSITION.

28th IN STIFF BATTLES ON MARNE AND VESLE

Continued from Page 1

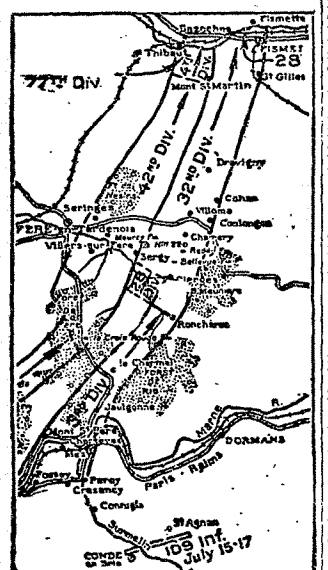
trary. It was doing yeoman service by furnishing for some time the only solid resistance on this part of the line and delaying the German rush by standing on its original position until flanked on both sides, then falling back fighting to another position in the Bois de Condé and finally to a third, 500 meters south of the isolated woodland farm, Le Grange aux Bois; whence finally, at about noon, it succeeded in getting word of its continued existence back to headquarters.

In the meantime, Colonel Brown, with the greater part of the regiment and some French detachments, established a line of resistance which at 4 o'clock in the afternoon lay approximately along the original second position from the northern edge of the Bois de Condé to Condé en Brie, with the 1st Battalion on the right and the 2nd Battalion on the left, and the valley containing the village of St. Agnan in front, with the enemy virtually stopped in the edges of the Bois de Condé to the north.

Left of the 109th, the French had established a line extending from Danjou farm down the Surnelin through Comblanchette, north of which village it had liaison with the 30th United States Infantry of the 3rd Division. The front of a good part of these positions, both American and French, was protected by the fire of the 108th Machine Gun Battalion, near Danjou farm, and of the 109th Machine Gun Battalion, near St. Agnan—an assistance of the most vital importance in the temporary absence of artillery support.

Two Attacks Repulsed

On the morning of the 16th at 10 o'clock, the 30th French Infantry Division having come into the sector to counter-attack, the 1st Battalion of the 109th Infantry, under Major Gregory, went forward with it. But the whole attack was repulsed in front of the fearless leadership of men like 2nd Lieut. H. Q. Griffin, who was killed in front of a German machine gun emplacement after he had led his platoon to the most advanced point reached by any detachment, and the work of such enlisted



men as Cpl. J. J. Lott, Co. C, who twice went ahead of his platoon, cut the enemy wire and then returned and guided the troops through the gaps he had made.

Another assault delivered at 6:30 p.m. was likewise repulsed, while St. Agnan, after being once retaken by the French, was lost again before night. After this, however, the situation began steadily to improve, and on the 17th the 28th Division began moving out of the sector preparatory to taking its place in the counter-offensive, the 109th Infantry having lost about 780 officers and men during its confused fighting and the 108th Machine Gun more than 40.

After about four days of rest immediately in rear of its battle positions, the 28th Division began following up the 3rd Division as it fought its way north from the Marne. As has been previously mentioned, the 56th Infantry Brigade came very near to taking active part in the battle at Trugny, being in position to attack that place, in conjunction with the 3rd Division, when it was discovered on the morning of July 24 that the enemy had retreated.

But its action was only deferred for a few days. On the 25th, the 56th Brigade was placed close behind the front of the 38th French Corps as corps reserve, and the 56th Brigade went on the battle line between the 42nd and the 3rd United States Divisions along the Oure, relieving the 39th French Division in front of the Bois de Grimpettes and Clerges.

110th Moves to Attack

Of the regiments of the 55th Brigade the 109th was placed in support and the 110th went forward to the attack about 4:30 a.m. The German machine gun fire from the Bois de Grimpettes on the right, Clerges in the center and the Arbre les Jomblets on the left was very heavy from the first, and the attack progressed but slowly. At 7:45

the 110th had advanced as far as the Oure, and it was just across the river at the end of the day.

At 3:30 a.m. of the 29th the attack was renewed after artillery preparation, but was unable to make any progress during the day. A renewed effort on the morning of the 30th was put down by the enemy's fire, as was a similar one at 3 a.m.

But by this time the 110th was thoroughly exasperated. Wounded men sent to the rear were going a little way, then tearing off their diagnosis tags and returning to the front. A thorough artillery preparation was put down, and finally, at 2:30 in the afternoon, a determined rush carried the line into the Bois de Grimpettes and the edge of Clerges, which was entered before dark, though the line was established on the high ground south of town. A number of machine guns were taken in the Bois de Grimpettes and also about 75 prisoners, all heavy machine guns, most of whom were wearing the Red Cross on their arms when captured.

The Arbre les Jomblets, from which the 42nd Division was suffering severely, unfortunately could not be taken at this time. During the night, the 55th Brigade was relieved by troops of the 32nd United States Division and retired eventually to reserve positions at Jaulgonne, having suffered nearly 800 casualties.

March Toward Vesle Begun

On August 4, acting as corps reserve, the division began marching toward the Vesle, and during the night of the 6th-7th, battalions of the 124th Infantry of the 56th Brigade relieved the advance battalions of the 32nd Division in Fismes and west of there, along the south bank of the river.

At about 5 p.m. of the 6th, these battalions, the 2nd and 3rd, made an attack across the river. Troops have seldom been called upon to go across stronger positions than the Germans held there, with the river swollen by rains in front of them, the village of Fismette, directly across from Fismes, as a principal strong point with precipitous hills behind it, bristling with machine guns, and echelons of numerous field and heavy artillery batteries on the reverse slopes further back.

But the 3rd Battalion succeeded in getting three of its companies across the river, and the 2nd Battalion, reinforced by three companies of the 1st Battalion, also got over and entered Fismette, and all the troops continued to hold their gains under a hurricane of fire until relieved by the 11th Infantry during the night of the 9th-10th.

On the night of the relief preparations were made for an attempt on the part of the 28th Division to enlarge its bridgeheads north and west of Fismette and of the 16th French Division, with the 6th United States Infantry Brigade attached, to establish bridgeheads north of the Vesle in the sector next to the east.

Detailed for Attack

In the 28th Division Company B and C of the 11th Infantry, supported by Companies D, I and A, were detailed to make the attack at 4:30 a.m. August 10. Previous to their rush against the ravines and hill slopes in front, combat patrols worked forward toward these objectives, other patrols with light machine guns stationed themselves on the house-tops of Fismes and Fismette, while platoons of other machine guns further back thickened the intense preliminary artillery bombardment, and then superimposed a machine gun barrage on the artillery barrage when the latter began rolling forward ahead of the attack. All these preparations, however, were in vain; the German positions were too strong to be broken, and the attack was thrown back, the garrison of Fismette continuing to cling to their slender foothold to the river under the most trying conditions, such as those experienced by Cpl. J. D. Moore, Company G, 11th Infantry, who, on the night of August 12, with one company and an automatic rifle, was with a house west of Fismette which was of vital importance to the line.

A German flare set the house on fire and brilliantly lighted the room where the Americans were, attracting a deluge of shots from the enemy machine guns and snipers. But the Americans fought the fire out and stuck to their post. Even the support troops in Fismes and along the south of the river were little better off than those north of it, excepting the ones near the base of the hills, who could shelter themselves in the immense galleries of the stone quarries which, in the course of centuries, have been worked back under these hills.

109th Relieves 111th

On the 13th, the 11th Infantry was relieved in Fismette by the 109th. Its casualties while to occupation had probably been about the same as those of the 111th, which had been reported at about 400 officers and enlisted men for the period from August 7 to 10. But even when the troops got back to positions south of Chery Chaussee and near Dravegny, where they were busied with the construction of trenches and entanglements on a new barrier line which was being built as a precaution against possible counter-attacks, losses were suffered almost daily from the enemy's long range shelling and his air raids with bombs and machine guns.

Rotating by battalions, the 11th went back to Fismes and Fismette on August 17 and continued to hold parts of the line there until the morning of the 27th, when Company G and H, which were occupying Fismette, were attacked at about 4 a.m. by a German force estimated at a battalion and driven across the river.

Except for this misfortune, the front now remained virtually stabilized until September 6, when the Germans, in consequence of the Allied attacks north of Soissons, began retreating from the Vesle toward the Aisne. The 28th Division was withdrawn from this front September 8-9 and started for the area of the new American First Army north of Toul.

SERVICE RECORDS FLOCK TO BOURGES

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A battalion sergeant major, 200 mis-directed service records, a typewriter, a table and a chair—that was the beginning of the Service Record Department now being operated in connection with the Central Records Office at Bourges. At present 184 enlisted men and 23 Wives are employed at full speed pulling and filing service records which have no permanent home.

Since March, 1918, when the sergeant major put out his sign, "Service Record Department," the work of re-directing, endorsing, finding and distributing service records has gradually expanded. From every part of France, from every nook of the territory occupied by the Third Army, come requests for service records. First consideration is given G.I.E.Q. telegrams, then G.I.E.Q. letters, then requests from embarkment ports, where the soldier's departure for the States is being delayed until his service record is supplied or a certificate from the Central Records Office is received stating that no service record is on file.

After these classes of requests are taken care of, information in regard to service records for men stationed in the units ordered to the embarkment points is furnished, and the service records sent out if they are available. Then, after the re-

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requests of the Army of Occupation are satisfied, the troubles of the great bulk of the A.E.F., including the S.O.S. and the Intermediate Section, are cleared up.

20,000 Requests a Day

At present 22,000 service records are filed away in this department. Some 20,000 requests come into the office daily, and the number of records crisscrossed varies from 40 to 80 per cent of the number asked for. Usually 12,000 replies are made each day. Numerous errors in spelling, in serial numbers, in the alphabetical arrangement of the lists hinder the findings of the department.

Service records have been rescued from such odd resting places as salvage dumps, railroad stations, railroad cars and installed in a chair—that was the beginning of the Service Record Department now being operated in connection with the Central Records Office at Bourges. At present 184 enlisted men and 23 Wives are employed at full speed pulling and filing service records which have no permanent home.

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OFFICERS ON INACTIVE LIST

Officers who were recommended for promotion when the armistice was declared will not actually be promoted, but each officer, according to Secretary Baker, "will be placed on the inactive list of the reserve in the advance grade to which he had been recommended." Mr. Baker explained that the War Department was proceeding on the theory that with demobilization a great many captains, majors and officers of higher rank would be left unassigned, and it is necessary that additional officers in higher grades be created. The available supply of officers, he indicated, exceeds the demand.

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